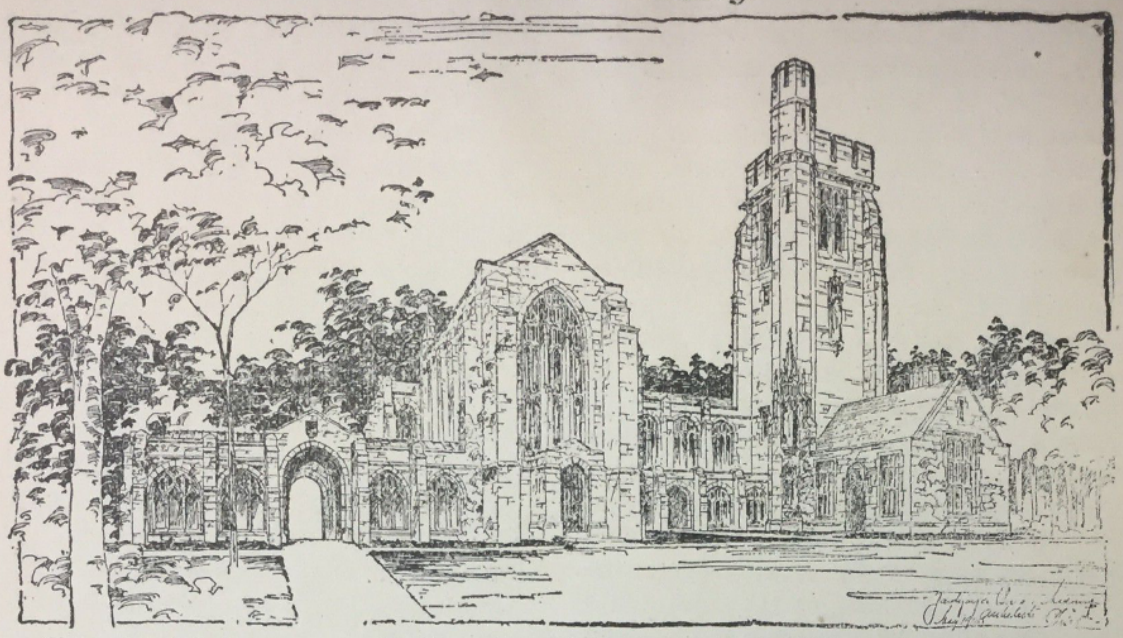
"For God and Country.



Cloister of the Colonies Washington Memorial Chapel Patriots' Hall Tower and Library

"No spot on earth—not the plains of Marathon, nor the passes of Sempach, nor the place of the Bastile, nor the dykes of Holland, nor the moors of England—is so sacred in the history of the struggle for human liberty as Valley Forge."

—CYRUS TOWNSEND BRADY

The Washington Chapel Chronicle

Valley Forge.

A MONTHLY RECORD OF RELIGION AND PATRIOTISM.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, Editor and Publisher. The Defenders' Gate, Valley Forge.

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Progress.

On Saturday, November 27, the capstone of the Washington Memorial Chapel was set, and a cedar tree and two American flags were placed over it. The only one who witnessed the ceremony was the Rector, whose heart was filled with gratitude and joy that at last the facade of the Chapel was completed. Partly hidden by the scaffolding and building material was the corner-stone with the date 1903. The twelve years have been full of efforts, of failures and successes, of hindrances and helps, and through all and over all a faith which never faltered. The faith-fabric was always there though few could see it, and through the years the stones slowly filled the dream-space until this year the work was completed in the setting of the last piece of coping.

In deep gratitude, the Rector offered his thanksgiving to God for the vision, for the help, for the helpers, and for the joy of the realization of the hopes of twelve long years. "The helpers," but for them the dream could never have come true—the members of All Saints' Sunday School who pledged their support to their Rector—the young women who wrote thousands of letters—the men, women and children, including the Indian school children—who gave their gifts of money—the little band which formed the first congregation—the members in the Sunday School and Guild—the

Bishops of the Diocese, the clergy and laity, whose interest to a practical shape —the Rev. Mr. Finn, our first assistant minister—and finally the Building Committee, Mr. Stevens Heckscher, Esq., chairman; Dr. Charles Custis Harrison, Mrs. Charles Custis Harrison, the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Garland, Mr. George A. Elliott, the Rev. W. Herbert Burk, Mr. Milton B. Medary, Jr., and Mr. Joseph M. Rogers, secretary, whose efforts have made the completion of the Washington Memorial Chapel possible in our day and generation —and Mr. Milton Benton Medary, Jr., to whose inspiration we owe the beauty of this House of God. It is already a holy place, consecrated by the prayers, the self-sacrifice, the gifts of those who did their part and now rest from their labors and of those who still bear the burden of life's struggle.

The hour was one of real worship, and the words so often repeated in the days when others doubted were said again as a prophecy fulfilled—"He shall bring forth the head-stone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, Grace unto it."

Blue and Buff.

Blue and buff have long been considered Continental colors. It is rather strange that this should be a fact when they were the colors worn only by the troops of New York and New Jersey. In the early years of the Revolution there was no definite regulation of the uniforms. But as the war progressed an effort was made to give to the army uniforms with distinguishing features. The blue coat was adopted October 2, 1779. As I said, the troops of New York and New Jersey were distinguished by buff facings. On the other hand New England troops wore blue coats with white facings, as did the Commander-in-Chief's Life Guard. The regiments from Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia were distinguished by red facings, but they all wore blue coats. Soldiers from North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia had blue coats "with buttonholes edged with white tape or lace."

Charles Knowles Bolton says in the "Private Soldier Under Washington," "The artillery coats were to be faced and lined with scarlet; they were to be edged with tape, as well as the buttonholes, and the buttons and hat bands were to be of yellow. Finally, the light dragoons or cavalry were to be distinguished by blue coats, with white facings, linings and buttons."

It will be noticed that "blue and buff" had no standing in eleven of the thirteen states, although blue now became the military color of the United States.

It is interesting to note that the two officers' uniforms in the Valley Forge Museum, one of which came from the Howard Pyle collection, and the other from the Danderon collection, are blue with white facings.

The Litany Desk.

Dr. William H. Greene has given the Litany Desk in memory of his father, the late Stephen Greene. This beautiful memorial will stand at the head of the aisle. It will be made of oak and the carving will be done by Mr. A. Maene, after a special design prepared by the architects.

This generous gift completes the furnishing of the Nave, as the Pews of the Patriots have been given and are now in use. The inscription of dedication will be cut in brass and set in the book shelf. The arms of the Washington Memorial Chapel will form a part of the decoration, and will be properly colored.

Mr. Stephen Greene, who is to be commemorated in this beautiful memorial, was a man zealous in all good works.

One of these gave encouragement to the Rev. Mr. Burk years ago while working in New Jersey. Upon reaching the canonical age Bishop Scarborough licensed him as Lay Reader and placed him in charge of St. Barnabas Church, Mantua,

N. J. Mr. Green became interested in the Mission and presented a pipe organ to the congregation.

The Martha Washington Memorial Window.

The Pennsylvania Society, Colonial Dames of America, will give the Martha Washington Memorial Window in the Washington Memorial Chapel. This important decision was made at the meeting of the Society held in Independence Hall, November 17. The window will have the place of honor above the Washington Altar and Reredos, and will be set in stone tracery of beautiful design.

It is too early to say what the design in glass will be as the whole question of the themes for the windows is now in the hands of a Window Committee, of which Mrs. Charles Custis Harrison is chairman. The committee has several schemes under consideration, one of which, prepared by the Rev. Mr. Burk, has been published in these columns. The effort is being made to have all the windows form part of a well-developed plan, approved by both historians and artists. In harmony with the purpose and plan of the Chapel, the windows will unite the religious and secular and will be historical in the best sense of the term.

The medallion type of window has been adopted as best suited to the long narrow openings. While there will be no slavish copying of any other work, the committee has selected the famous windows of Chartres as its ideal. In these the medallions are set in a geometrical diaper, which gives the rich effect of jewels.

The Colonial Dames voted $20,000 for this memorial, fifty per cent. of which, as in the case of all memorials in the Chapel, will be added to the Endowment Fund. The Society has part of the money in hand, and expects to have no difficulty in securing the balance.

The Society deserves the heart-felt gratitude of all Americans for this noble commemoration of Martha Washington at Valley Forge, for her presence and ministry were an untold blessing to Washington and his men.

Records of Memorials.

The Washington Memorial Chapel Committee has made remarkable progress in its efforts to have the furnishings of the Chapel given as memorials. In our last issue the committee reported ten memorials given. These gifts amounted to $12,800. The committee now reports through Dr. Charles Custis Harrison the gift of six additional memorials, amounting to $12,500. The work is done so quietly, and so little is said of its achievements that few realize that in two years it has raised over $85,000 for the erection and furnishing of the Washington Memorial Chapel, or almost as much as the National Government has given to Valley Forge.

The following are the memorials included in the last report:

The Altar and Reredos by Mr. Rodman Wanamaker, in the um of $5000.

The Massachusetts State Panel by Mr. S. W. Colton, Jr., in the sum of $500.

The Litany Desk in the sum of $1000, in memory of Mr. Stephen Greene, contributed by his son, Dr. William H. Greene.

The Louisiana State Panel by Mrs. Charlotte H. S. Houston, in the sum of $500.

The Missouri State Panel by the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of Missouri, in the sum of $500.

One of the Stained Glass Windows in the Nave in memory of Dr. John Houston, by several of his descendants, in the sum of $5000.

Nothing can be more obvious than that a sound military establishment and the interest of economy are the same.—Washington.

Washington Memorial Chapel,

Valley Forge, Pa.

THE REV. W. HERBERT BURK, B. D.
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Mr. Frank Quigg, Vestry's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.; Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Rector's Warden, Port Kennedy, Pa.

VESTRYMEN.

Mr. Charles C. Harrison, Jr., Mr. Richard Haughton, Mr. Nathan B. Hughes, Mr. Leslie Jefferis, Mr. Frank Quigg, Mr. S. Col. Summerill, Mr. Henderson Supplee, Mr. Clayton Stephens Walker, Mr. C. Colket Wilson, Jr.

Miss Mary M. Hibbs, Chorister.
Miss Mary Pugh, Organist.
Mr. Louis Buler, Sexton.

Sundays.

10.45 A. M. Service and Sermon.
2.30 P. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.
3.45 P. M. Service and Sermon.
Holy Communion, First Sunday.
Saints' Days, 9.30 A. M. Holy Communion.
King-of-Prussia:
9 A. M. Sunday School and Bible Classes.

The Valley Forge Museum of American History.

Curator, The Rev. W. Herbert Burk, B. D.
Assistant Curator, Mr. Reginald L. Hart.

The Washington Memorial Library.
Librarian, Mr. E. Russell Jones.

Preparation for Christmas.

Mrs. Sarah Swift Zulich, who, since the organization of the Sunday School has given the candy every Christmas, will again make our children glad.

The Rector has written a Christmas play for the Sunday School, and the rehearsals are now in progress under his direction. It will be given in the Log Cabin in front of the fire-place.

The Christmas Festival will be held on Christmas Eve as usual, at 7.30 o'clock.

At 10 o'clock on Christmas Day, there will be service, sermon and Holy Communion.

From Sunday, November 28, to Sunday, December 4, the Rector conducted a Preaching Mission. A letter was sent by him to every member of the congregation, an invitation to attend the services, which was accepted by a goodly number.

To the Transportation Committee, consisting of Messrs. Coates, Fotterall, Hughes, Jefferis, Moyer, Quigg, Stinson, Summerill, Wadleigh, Clayland Walker, Charles Walker, Colket Wilson, Jr. and Supplee, is due in a large measure the success of the Mission. The committee established an automobile service covering the entire parish, so that no one was kept away from the services by lack of transportation.

The hearty congregational singing of familiar hymns, and deeply spiritual sermons of the Rector, followed by his heart-searching questions and helpful suggestions, and the devotional spirit of the entire congregation have done more good for the parish than any other work attempted. The services were entirely free from all sensationalism, being simply the effort on the part of the Rector and people to make religion the business of life. The congregations were notable for the large percentage of men present.

The Memorial of the Rev. Francis Thompson Howell Finn.

The sedile in memory of the Rev. Francis Thompson Howell Finn, which is being given by the members of the Washington Memorial Chapel and of St. Peter's Church, Cape May, N. J., will be completed early in the year, when the sanctuary is built. As most of the cut stone is now ready for erection, an effort should be made to complete the fund at once. Less than one hundred dollars is now needed, and there should be no difficulty in raising this money.

Who will help? Miss Ann W. Pechin is the treasurer of the fund.

The Log Cabin.

The openings between the logs in the Log Cabin were greatly enjoyed by our scholars and visitors during the hot days of summer, but when the cold winds came they took away the appreciation. For a week or two, make-shifts were used, but these were unsatisfactory, and finally the Guild gave the orders to have the logs chinked with cement. Mr. Miller superintended the work, which was done by the Mandes Brothers, who have the contract for the masonry of the Chapel. The work was done during the first week in November, and the result is a building which ought to last for many years and be of great service in the varied work of this religious and patriotic institution.

Col. H. C. Trexler gave all the cement required for the chinking and for the floor. For this very generous and patriothic gift the members of the Guild, the Washington Memorial Chapel, and the many visitors who share our hospitality will be most grateful. Colonel Trexler's gift has the effect of stimulating all to a more earnest effort toward the building up of our work on the broad lines laid down in the plan of the Washington Memorial.

Statue of Baron Von Steuben at Valley Forge.

On Saturday, October 9, the German-American Alliance unveiled at Valley Forge a bronze statute of Major General Frederick Wilhelm von Steuben. The Alliance has made a notable addition to the Valley Forge Park in the gift of this excellent representation of the famous drill-master to whom America owes so much. The statue is a replica of that dedicated at Utica, New York, August 13, 1915. and is the work of J. Otto Schwizer.

It is located on the Outer Line Boulevard between the marker of General Scott's brigade and the massive monument erected by the Valley Forge Chapter, D. A. R., to the Unknown Dead of Valley Forge. The site chosen is a commanding one. Its distance from the station, however, made it necessary to begin the exercises before the singing societies, bands and guests could walk to the monument, but the procession from Fort Washington was an attractive feature of the dedication, even if its arrival was disconcerting.

Governor Brumbaugh was unable to be present, and Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart acted on his behalf. Dr. C. J. Hexamer, Mr. Herman Ridder, of New York, and Mr. J. B. Mayer, made addresses.

Dr. Hexamer began his address by reading the letter written by Baron von Steuben to the Continental Congress, volunteering his services, and asking neither riches nor honors in payment. In his address Dr. Hexamer dwelt upon the history of the past and Steuben's services, but could not resist the temptation to make an attack on the American press, whose outspoken defense of the rights of humanity he claimed was purchased by English money.

"Mr. Mayer's address was in German and was an impassioned tribute to the love of freedom which brought Von Steuben to America and the loyalty of German-

Americans to this country during the present time of stress.

"Mr. Ridder regretted the inability, because of illness of his father, the New York editor, to be present, but asked that he might take home to his father the assurance of thousands from the fatherland of their devotion to their country. He declared that when the war is over the fact of Germany's righteous cause will be established."

Miss Hildegard Hexamer unveiled the statue, and the United Sunday Schools sang "Der gute Kamerad." Mr. William H. Sayen, President of the Valley Forge Park Commission, accepted the statue on behalf of the Commission and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Among those present were Miss Nina T. von Steuben, of Allentown, and Mr. Ulysses H. von Steuben, of Easton, descendants of Baron von Steuben's brother.

The statue stands upon a granite base on which there is a bas-relief depicting a squad of solidiers drilling before the stern commander. The inscription is cut in the stone as follows:

Major General Frederich Wilhelm von Steuben

Erected by the National German-American Alliance, 1915.

Mr. Schweizer has reproduced in the most minute detail the uniform and accoutrements of his hero. While there is this devotion to detail in minor matters the artist has shown his freedom in the strong lines and rugged mass of the soldier, to whom he has given a truly commanding sipirit.

The Baron's letter is so characteristic that it is well worth reproducing here:

"Honorable Gentlemen: The honor of serving a nation engaged in the noble enterprise of defending its rights and liberties, was the motive that brought me to this continent. I ask neither riches nor titles. I am come here from the remotest end of Germany, at my own expense, and have given up an honorable and lucrative rank. I have made no condition with your deputies in France, nor shall I make with you. My only ambition is to serve you as a volunteer, to deserve the confidence of your general in chief, and to follow him in all his operations, as I have done during seven campaigns with the King of Prussia. Two and twenty years spent in such a school seem to give me a right of thinking myself among the number of experienced officers; and if I am possessed of the acquirements in the art of war, they will be much more prized by me if I can employ them in the service of a republic such as I hope soon to see in America. I should willingly purchase, at the expense of my blood, the honor of having my name enrolled among those of the defenders of your liberty. Your gracious acceptance will be sufficient for me, and I ask no other favor than to be received among your officers. I venture to hope that you will grant this, my request, and that you will be so good as to send me your orders to Boston, where I shall await them, and take suitable measures in accordance."

Later in life he complained that he did not receive as much as his services warranted, and among the treasures of the Valley Forge Museum is a letter in which he complains of the meanness of Congress. We need not go into the story of his struggle for justice. This is told in detail in Joseph B. Doyle's life of Steuben. In 1790 he was voted an annuity of $2500. Before this the State had granted him land as they had little money to bestow. Virginia gave him 15,000 acres in the territory northwest of the Ohio, and Pensylvania gave him 2000 acres in the county of Westmoreland. New Jersey gave him the life lease of a tory estate in Bergen county, but he refused to accept this and interceded for the Tory owner. New York gave him 16,000 acres of land near Lake Ontario, where later he made his home.

Relic of the Rittenhouse Paper Mill.

Mr. Levin Wagner has given to the Museum an interesting relic of the Rittenhouse Paper Mills. William Rittenhouse built the first paper mill in American on Paper Mill run, a branch of the Wissahickon Creek, in 1690. This was destroyed by a freshet in 1700 or 1701, and another was built of stone in 1704. The paper mills were inherited by William's son, Claus or Nicholas, who carried on the business. David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, was the great-grandson of William, the pioneer paper-maker of America. Up to 1798 all paper was made by hand, and the screen now in our Museum was evidently cast aside when modern methods were introduced. It is 30 inches long and 19½ inches wide, covered with a fine brass wire mesh. Mr. Wagner's father, George W. Wagner, secured two screens from Joseph Markle to use for straining paint. One was cut up for this purpose, but the other was preserved by the son as a relic. After keeping it for many years he has given it to the Museum to represent one of the earliest manufactures of the new world.

On Wednesday and Friday, December 8 and 10, Dean Burk was the preacher in the Preaching Mision in Holy Trinity Memorial Church, Lansdale, of which the Rev. J. Clayton Mitchell is now the rector.

The Arms of the States.

The Washington Chapel Building Committe has consented to a change in the plans suggested by the Rector, and has authorized the work to be carried out in accordance with his idea. Stone arches mark the entrance to the choir and to the sanctuary. The original plans for the sanctuary arch called for rosettes in the moldings. Models had been made for these, but fortunately none was cut before the desired change was ordered.

Instead of the floral rosettes there will be cut forty-four shields representing the States which were in the Union when the corner-stone of the Washington Memorial Chapel was laid. The shields will have carved on them the arms of the States and Mr. Medary's suggestion that these should be colored will be carried out, giving us another touch of color as well as an added historical emphasis. To many these things may see of minor importance, but they all have their part in making the Washington Memorial Chapel vital with the Nation's life and thought and feeling, instead of a cold mass of stone.

"Washington discerned as if by intuition every element and every condition of the body politic. He contemplated its healthful action and the means of its continuance—its diseased action and prescribed the appropriate remedies. His eye ran along the distant future and his pen with unerring certainty recorded what was to be, and worked out for the embryo nation its path to a glorious destiny." William Buell Sprague, D. D.

VESTRY MEETING.

There will be a meeting of the Vestry on Monday, January 3. As there has been no meeting for months it is important that an effort should be made to have a sufficient number present to make a quorum.

The offering on Thanksgiving Day for the Episcopal Hospital amounted to $7.40. Since that time another dollar has been received for this noble charity. The Rector will be glad to receive gifts from those who were unable to give on Thanksgiving Day.

"Washington is so great a figure of an heroical patriot that one may not venture to touch upon his glorious memory without deep reflection, and especially when belonging to the country where had lived in ancient times the great original of the American Pericles

Peace Comes Through Preparedness.

The United States ought not to indulge a persuasion, that, contrary to the order of human events, they will for ever keep at a distance those painful appeals to arms, with which the history of every nation abounds.

There is a rank due to the United States among nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness.

If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it.

If we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known, that we are, at all times, ready for war.—Washington.

THE FLAG AND THE NAVY.

To secure respect to a neutral flag, requires a Naval Force, organized, and ready to vindicate it from insult or aggression.

This may prevent even the necessity of going to war, by discouraging belligerent powers from committing such violations of the rights of the neutral party, as may, first or last, leave no other option.—Washington.

The Valley Forge Museum.

Visitors to the Valley Forge Museum of American History are impressed with the value and extent of the collections, and with the way in which they are crowded into the limited space. Often the remark is made: "It is too bad you have so little room to display these relics." When the Patriots' Hall is built we will have a worthy setting for these relics of our Nation's past history, but it will be some time before this splendid plan can be carried out.

What we need now is a plain, inexpensive fire-proof building in which the collections can be placed for the present, where there will be both more room and more light. Such a building could be erected of hollow tile or brick at a very moderate cost.

Some arrangement will have to be made for the protection of these relics during the actual erection of the Patriots' Hall, which will take nearly a year, and such a building would meet this need.

Many gifts will be made as soon as we have the means to exhibit them properly. Why should there be any difficulty in erecting such a building? The Guild has shown what can be done by persistent effort, and through it the Log Cabin has been added to our equipment. Why not add the Muesum Annex.

On Washington's Birthday, 1916, we will celebrate the anniversary of the founding of the Valley Forge Museum. That event ought to be marked by the beginning of a concerted effort on the part of those interested in the educational side of our work to secure for it this muchly needed building. A meeting might be held on Washington's Birthday at which the work could be discussed and some united action taken to secure the money required. A few energetic people could carry this to a happy conclusion in a very short time, and do wonders for the cause of education and patriotism.

The Ohio Society of Philadelphia gave a luncheon on Thursday, December 2, at the Bellevue-Stratford, in honor of the Hon. Frank B. Willis, Governor of the State of Ohio. The Rev. Mr. Burk was one of the Society's guests on this occasion.

Mr. William E. Montague has given the Museum an interesting military hat. It is of leather, and is ten inches high, and ten inches in diameter at the top. It is decorated with two bands of gold braid, at top and bottom. The visor is brass as are the chin straps. It was made by John McCabe, saddler and harness maker, 181 Market street, Baltimore. It may have been used by one of the county military organizations in the early days of the last century.